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North against the South.

true end of government is to protect persons and rights and property of the South. purpose of the Northern organization is to assail prepared index. the rights and interests of the South : the purpose of the Southern organization should be to quested to act as agents. protect the interests thus assailed.

Late events prove that the North are so deeply interested in preserving their present political and commercial relations to the South, that a powerful, influential, and controlling party can be rallied in that section, who will unite with the South

It is alleged by their advocates that the late in defence of their rights, if the South will itself measures, called a Compromise, should be a satis- become united, and, when united, act in concert favor to allow me, through the medium of your factory and final adjustment of the slavery ques- with that Northern party who give the strongest tion. They cannot become so otherwise than by and most reliable guaranties to the South. Can uniting and consolidating the South in support this be done? We believe it can. To aid in doing of their rights, and by harmonizing the conflict- it, the "American Telegraph" will take an active ing sectional interests which have arrayed the part in the next Presidential election. It will urge the South to unite upon the republican basis The result of the late elections proves that the of '98, and to send, in good faith, a full and able South are attached to the Union, and wish to representation to the Baltimore Convention, unharmonize with the North. To reconcile con- der a belief that the Democracy of the North flicting opinions, and secure concert and una- will unite with them in the nomination of candinimity, there must be mutual confidence and dates entitled to their confidence and support; good-will. This is impossible, unless the sections and who, if elected, will exert the power and indeal fairly and justly towards each other. The fluence of the federal government to protect the true and of government is to protect persons and rights and property of the South.

If my cause cannot stand upon its own merits to state that a very general misapprehension before the tribunal of an impartial and right.

property. In the South slaves are property, and That the people may act understandingly, we the South demand the peaceable and quiet pos- invite a full and candid investigation of the merits session of such property. Their right to hold and qualifications of those who may be presented slaves as property is denied by the Abolitionists as candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presiof the North, who, that they may more efficiently dency. As the nominations, if properly made, control public opinion in that section, have or- will receive the support of the republican party, ganized themselves into religious and political this examination of the merits of candidates combinations. They act through the press, the must be made before the meeting of the convenpulpit, and the ballot-box. Such an organization tion; and that the "Telegraph" may give more in one section makes it indispensable that there efficient aid in that discussion, we propose to should be a counter organization in the other; issue a weekly super-royal sheet, in quarto, at because, if not resisted by such counter organiza- the reduced price of one dollar per annum. This tion, the inevitable consequence would be that weekly paper will become a valuable book of refthe Northern organization would absorb and erence, containing the facts and arguments recontrol the entire public sentiment, social, moral, lating to the Presidential election, and much other eligious, and political, of that section. The political and general intelligence, with a carefully-

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Railroad Convention.

the Presidents of Railroad Companies from the cured to the United States. committee of the meeting held in this city on the or some one else to represent them.

[Circular.]

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 10, 1851. SIR: By the enclosed proceedings of a meetng held in this city on the 3d instant, it was made the duty of the undersigned as a committee to correspond with the several railroad companies in the United States, and to report to an propose. adjourned meeting, to be held in this city on the first Tuesday in March next, to consider a proplaw regulating mail contracts, so as to enable the panies United States five per cent. coupon bonds, upon permanent contracts for carrying the mail, to an amount the interest upon which, at five per cent.. would be equal to the payments to be made under existing laws; and they therefore respectfully call the attention of your company to the subject, and invite your co-operation. They greatly prefer that you should send delegates to he adjourned meeting; for the opinions expressed by a convention of practical men, representing by a convention of practical men, representing so much wealth, enterprise, and intelligence, will command, as they will deserve, the confidence and respect of Congress, and thus promote the adoptorespect of Congress, and the confidence of Congress of Congres tion of such details as may be agreed upon in convention; but if it should not be convenient to send delegates, we would ask your company to submit, through us, your wishes and opinions upon the main proposition, and upon the details onnected therewith.

It is well known that many persons are opposed o internal improvements by the general government-some denying the power of Congress to make appropriations for that object; others fearng that the exercise of such power would lead to combinations resulting in partial and unjust legislation. It will be seen that the proposition under consideration is free from these objections. It asks no appropriation of money in aid of the which construction of railroads. The contracts will be restricted to the service which the several railcoad companies are in condition to execute when the payments are made.

It is true that the proposed modification of the aws regulating mail contracts will give similar payments pro rata, as new roads are made and as old ones are extended, and will so far increase be the credit and resources of railroad companies. The same effect, although to a less extent, results from existing laws, and surely it cannot be arged as a valid objection to the proposed change hat it will aid in the extension of the railroad system. We claim as a merit, that the proposed nodification will aid in extending the system by giving greater value to railroad investments. Under existing laws contracts are made for four years, and the payments are continued, if not increased ad infinitum. Under the proposed modiication the contracts will be made, giving the United States the perpetual use of railroads; and the rate of compensation is so reduced that at the end of thirty-three years, the payments will cease, and the department will forever thereafter have the use of such railroad free of all charge. It is objected that old routes may be super-

seded by new ones, and the present service so diminished as to render it inexpedient to make permanent contracts at the rates proposed. It has also been objected that railroads now in use may be discontinued, and that such railroad companies cannot protect the department from loss. We answer these objections by assuming that the

contracts will be made by a board appointed for We would call the attention of the public that purpose, and that no contracts will be given

We desire to obtain the views of your company 3d inst. We understand that the meeting ad- upon these and all other matters of detail, and journed until the first Tuesday in March, that the respectfully ask of you to furnish us such statisgreat convention to be held at New Orleans on tics as will enable us to submit to the convention the first Monday in January may act upon the and to Congress a statement showing the comproposed modification of the laws regulating mail parative increase or diminution, as the case may contracts. It is hoped that the adjourned meet- be, of the mail service performed by your coming will be fully attended, and that Railroad pany-the past, and probable future increase of Companies who cannot conveniently send delethe weight of mails carried over the route of that all fair men will bear in mind that I had no gates will authorize their members of Congress your road. And in this connexion we wish to periodicals are sent free of postage.

> current price of your shares, what rate of dividend does your company now pay, and what dividend could you pay under a contract such as we The committee venture to invite the co-opera-

tion of the railroad convention to be held in New osition to petition Congress for a change in the Orleans on the first Monday of January, and that with the Captain-General the day before touching the newspapers in the South and West will urge Post Office Department to deliver to railroad com- upon all those who are interested in railroads or in the extension of the system a favorable consideration of the measure proposed, and the necessity of prompt and efficient co-operation. In behalf of the committee.

DUFF GREEN, Chairman,

Proceedings of a Meeting held in Washington City on the At a meeting of gentlemen, assembled, at the request of Gen. Duff Green, to consider a project for modifying the existing laws regulating the letting of mails to railroad corporations—

Gen. Morton, of Florida, was chosen president, and Albert

"Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, with authority to correspond with the several railroad companie in the United States upon the subject of an application Congress for a change in the mode of compentransporting the mails on railroads, and to digest a plan, to be submitted to a meeting to be hereafter convened by the said committee.

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generally, and especially of all persons imme- unless that board be fully satisfied that mail serliately interested in Railroads, to the Circular to vice adequate to the payments will be amply se-

learn what, in your opinion, will be the probable increased weight of the mails, if newspapers and be fully shown. But it is not true that I even periodicals are sent free of postage.

We wish you also to state what is the present

Gen. Duff Green, Mr. Blunt, of Florida, Albert Smit Maine, Robert H. Gallaher and Col. Fontaine, of Virg were chosen said committee. Voted, that the meeting be adjourned. ALBERT SMITH, Secreta

TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

ENTLEMEN wishing to provide themselves with a fin Gun and apparatus, have now an opportunity seldor red, as I am determined to sell off my large stock of

Olives, just received and for sale by JOHN B. KIBBEY & CO., 22-W12w No. 5, opp. Centre Market.

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Washington, December 29, 1851. Messrs. Gales & Seaton: Will you do me the extensively circulated journal, to make an exposition purely of a personal character? I am aware that such matters are usually uninteresting and not unfrequently quite distasteful to an intelligent public. But in this instance I feel intelligent public. that I have a right to ask a hearing even without

an apology.

In my conduct as late Consul for Havana l have been harshly assailed and bitterly denounced, not to say grossly misrepresented and shamefully traduced before the American people. Of the character of those who were the most efficient actors in this conspiracy against my good name and reputation, or their objects or motives, I have no intention at this time or in this way to speak thinking people, I am willing that I and it may be consigned to that reprobation which both does not seem to be known or appreciated that he would so righly deserve, if I were such a man as is restricted in express terms to such matters as are I have been represented to be. My object, therefore, in asking of you the favor, is not to use the ers, and is so informed by the government of the medium of your paper for the purpose of assailing any one, not even my calumniators, but only him on subjects other than commercial can only to defend myself. I feel that I have been most be addressed as matters of favor, and not of right. unjustly dealt by. Whether others, who have This can readily be perceived by reading the exnot the same interest in the matter, shall be of tent of the powers as set forth in the following the same opinion, will depend upon their judg- royal exequatur: ment upon what I have to say.

When, then, are the charges which have been brought against me? Not having seen any presented in any regular form, I shall have to allude to them as I have seen them stated in the newspapers at different times. And, to begin with the

1st. It has been said, in substance, that I refused to take any steps, on the morning of the 6th of August last, to arrest the proceedings which resulted in the condemnation and sentence of death pronounced against my unfortunate countrymen who were taken in the ill-fated Lopez Cuba, and the other authorities whose duty it expedition, who were that day executed by the authorities in the Island of Cuba; and not only this, but that I refused to see them or to bear len F. Owen in the capacity of Consul of the

them in their miserable condition. To this I have simply to say that it is not true that I refused to take any steps to arrest the pro-ceedings which resulted in the order for their cise any act of jurisdiction, being only allowed to execution. It is not true that I knew of their interpose his arbitration in controversies which capture until after their condemnation. As I may occur between merchants and senfaring peonave stated on a former occasion, they were condemned before I heard of their capture; so that thing their differences. Under which condition, I had no time to act, or to do anything to prevent and none other, I grant him this my royal authority their sentence, if I had had the power to do so. to perform the functions of said office; and to Again: It is not true that I refused to see them this effect I order that he may be allowed to exafter their condemnation. Nor is it true that any desire was expressed by any one of them to see me that was made known to me. On the contrary, I did express a desire to see them, for the purpose of bearing any message they might deliver to me to be borne to their friends. And I was informed Mr. Costa, of New Orleans, known personally to some of them, had been sent for and had attended to such matters. And I ask more power or authority from my official position to act in the matter than any other American citizen who happened to be there, as will hereafter the sad fate of these men, under the most moving and melancholy circumstances of their situation. As soon as I arrived at my office, a little after ten o'clock, in the morning, and heard of their sen-Island. This I did not do in my official character, because, apart from my knowledge of the full extent of my official powers, I had, in an interview 2d. It has been said that, after the whatever nation they might. I therefore, on reaching my office, fearing a personal interview might be denied me, wrote and delivered in person to the private secretary of the Captain-General the note which follows, purely as an act of hu-manity. The note and the reply the public can judge of for themselves.

COMMERCIAL AGENCY OF THE U. STATES

Havana, August 16, 1851.
Sir: I have just arrived in the city, and heard of the capture of about fifty of the men who came with Lopez, and that they have been condemned to be shot very soon. Under these embarrassing circumstances, I regard it as my solemn duty to make an appeal to your Excellency in behalf of these unfortunate men; and I trust that this will not be considered as an 'in terference,' either official or personal, on my part. I carnestly beseech that the lives of the prisoners may be spared, and if all cannot be spared, that no more shall be taken than are deemed to be absolutely necessary; and if neither of these petitions can be granted, that your Excellency will not permit the prisoners to be executed immediately, but allow them all the time possible in their dreadful condition. Will your Excellency allow me an interview at once

I have the honor to be your Excellency's obe-A. F. OWEN. dient servant. His Exc'y Sr. D. Jose de la Concha,

Governor and Captain-General of the Island of Cuba

[Seal of the Government of the Island of Cuba.] OFFICE OF THE POLITICAL SECRETARY.

I have just received the communication that ou have been pleased to address me, interesting ourself that I shall spare the lives of all or some mpossible for me to accede to any one of the your offer. three extremes that your letter contains. The fifty captured men are not American citizens, or citizens of any other nation. They are pirates, acknowledged and declared as such by the Spanish government, long before they had attempted the criminal undertaking that they accomplished; and no otherwise can be considered those who, without any acknowledged flag, assemble, arm themselves, embark, invade, and spill the blood of the defenders of a quiet country, that is in full peace and friendship with the nation of which they call themselves citizens. The American government itself thus considered them also, when, in such solemn and public documents as its proclamations, it not only reprobated the expedition of which they formed a part, but asured in the clearest and most explicit manner, that it would not acknowledge them as American citizens; that no effort would be made in their favor to save them from the penalty that might be laid upon them in the country where they were going; and that, for the same reason, it would abandon them to the fate they might there meet with. I cannot but be surprised, therefore, in the letter which I am answering; although with the saving clause that it may not be considered as an official or personal "interference." der under the proclamation which your Excel You are aware that Consuls, who are strictly lency was good enough to issue on the 24th commercial agents, ought not in any manner to interfere in affairs of this nature; and you can-

It being, in the most complete manner, proved misguided men who were engaged in it shall that the fifty prisoners you recommend to me are needlessly suffer longer. part of those who, trampling upon all interna-tional law, invaded in arms this pacific island, sist, protected by the mountains, the attacks of our troops; and that they, after the defeat they sustained, were trying to save themselves by hunted down by the very men who, they were flight,—neither justice nor policy counsel me to told, were up in arms and revolutionizing this accede to the wishes expressed by you; and in government. this affair I will not admit any interference, privately or officially, from you, nor from the other Consuls resident in this city.

God preserve you many years!

JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

HAVANA, August 16, 1851. It may be proper, before proceeding further, strictly commercial. He has no diplomatic pow-United States, and every communication made by

Dona Isabel, the Second, by the Grace of God and the Constitution of the Spanish monarchy, Queen of Spain:

Inasmuch as the Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States has reported that the President of said republic has appointed Mr. Allen F. Owen Consul of the same for Havana, as it appears from the commission which he has exhibited, beg-ging that I would be pleased to approve of it, in order that he may exercise the functions of said office, and to which I have assented: Therefore, I command the Captain-General of the Island of may be to see this my royal decree carried out, to receive and to recognise the aforesaid Mr. Alany messages from them to their friends, or to United States at Havana, in the form prescribed do anything manifesting any commisseration for by the royal ordinance of the twenty fourth of March, one thousand eight hundred and twentynine, and to permit him to enjoy and to exercise cise any act of jurisdiction, being only allowed to ple, with a view of reconciling them and of setercise the privileges and to receive the emoluments appertaining to the same, and that he may enjoy the exemptions, prerogatives, and immuni-ties compatible with the special law which is in force in that colony.

Given in Madrid, on the 12th of August, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.
I THE QUEEN.

(Countersigned,)

THE MARQUIS MIRAFLORES. This is the usual form of the powers allowed by Spain to all Consuls in her transmarine dependencies. And from this it will be seen that I had no more power to act in the matter under consideration than any other citizen of the United States in Havana at that time; no more than any one of our naval officers within the range of whose guns the execution took place. If any one of all tence and approaching doom, I addressed a note to the Governor and Captain-General of the without any official connexion with our government, did more than I did, or even as much, I

2d. It has been said that, after the surrender and capture of those who came in under the the course intended to be pursued by him in case any of the men invading the island should be caperal of the 24th August, and were committed to tured, been informed by him that he would not allow any interference, either official or personal, by any Consul in their behalf, let them belong to ers, Capt. Kelly, has published, under his own hand, since his return to this country, a statement, which has had an extensive circulation through the medium of the presses of the country, making this charge, and other charges also, which I shall not deign to notice. It is due to me that the public, however, should know the facts; and I shall not so far compromit my own self-respect as to ask the public to judge between me and him. But that Capt. Kelly may see himself how far he is sustained by Capt. Platt and Lieut, Taylor, of the United States sloop-of-war Albany, to whom he referred in a part of his statement, I subjoin their joint letter to me:

UNITED STATES SHIP ALBANY, Havana, December 4, 1851.

SIR: Your note of this date, in reference to a letter published by Capt. Kelly, of the late Lopez expedition, has been received, and we take great pleasure in complying with your request. We have no hesitation in saying that Capt, Kelly has made a great mistake in that portion of his statement referring to ourselves, to wit:

"When Capt. Platt, of the sloop-of-war Albany visited us, I sent to Mr. Owen by him, and he again refused to come. Then Lieut. Taylor, of the Albany, said he would 'make him come,' and the next morning Mr. Owen paid us a visit with Capt. Platt."

The facts are simply these: Before we pro ceeded to the Punta, on the 30th August, we called at your office, and you then desired us to say to the prisoners confined there for taking part in the invasion of Cuba, that if they wished to see you, you would pay them a visit, although you could do nothing for them in your official capacity This message was delivered to them, and they said that they would be glad to have you come of the fifty prisoners, or that the penalty of death Your visit to them, in company with Capt. Platt, ipon them should at least be suspended. It is was made in compliance with their acceptance of

The inference to be drawn from the above que tation from Capt. Kelly's letter is, that Lieut. Taylor saw the prisoners some time, subsequent to Capt. Platt's first visit to them. Lieut. Taylor bled to comprehend them, before and since my never saw them, except in company with Capt. Platt on the occasion mentioned. Neither of us heard any complaint from them, at that time, of any neglect or indifference on your part towards

Very respectfully, your obedient servants, CHARLES T. PLATT, WM. ROGERS TAYLOR A. F. Owen, esq., U. S. Consul, Havana.

Now, the facts are, that these men, or most of them at least, were brought to the city of Havana, and committed to prison on the 28th and 29th of August. On the 30th I addressed the following communication to the Governor and Captain

COMMERCIAL AGENCY OF THE U. STATES Havana, August 30, 1851.

SIR: I desire to invite your Excellency's atention to the subject of the American prisoners that you should interest yourself in their favor belonging to the expedition of Lopez. Some of them have been captured, others have surrendered, and others still will be captured or surren der under the proclamation which your Excel

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It is doubtless known to your Excellency that tional law, invaded in arms this pacific island, these men have already suffered much. Without and fought against the soldiers that defend it; it a shelter from the storm, without food, save the being notorious that their companions still re- wild fruit which chance threw in their way,

> In view of all these things, the misrepresentations of the designing by whom these unfortunate men have been induced to invade this island, and the sufferings they have already endured, I respectfully request that the chains may be re-moved from the limbs of the prisoners, and that they may be treated with all the kindness consistent with their safe-keeping.

> I trust that your Excellency will permit the prisoners to be visited by such of their countrymen as are here or may come here during their confinement, and who may desire to see them; and that they may be allowed such things, in the way of diet, clothing, and the like, as may conduce to their comfort, which it is desired to afford them.

> I desire to see your Excellency as soon as an interview can be granted, to present some views for your Excellency's consideration relative to the liberation of all these unfortunate men: many of them are husbands, and have dependent wives and helpless children; more of them have fathers, mothers, and sisters, who will be in the deepest distress at their capture and imprisonment when

> it shall become known to them.
>
> Hoping for the most favorable results, and believing that your Excellency will embrace the opportunity of showing kindness and humanity to the prisoners, I have the honor to be your Excellency's obedient servant,

His Ex' y Sr. D. Jose De La Concha, Governor and Captain-General of the Island of Cuba.

The same day that this letter was addressed to the Captain-General, Capt. Platt and Lieut. Taylor called to see me on their way to the prison. They had previously obtained a written permit from the Captain-General to visit the prisoners. I sent word by these officers to the prisoners that I would visit them and do what I could for them, if they desired it. At the same time, that they might not be mistaken as to the extent of my powers, I sent them word that I could do nothing for them in my official character. How far my sympathies were enlisted in their behalf may be udged of by the character of my letter. The interview with the Captain-General, requested in that letter, was granted. And on the evening of the same day, the 30th of August, the Captain-General, in that interview, made known to me his intention to pardon the whole of the prisoners. The next day, August 31st, the news was received of the unfortunate outrages at New Oreans, and the Captain-General immediately sent for me and informed me of the change of his pur-

But as soon as I obtained a permit to visit the prisoners, I did so; and to the utmost of my ability I did all I could to administer to their wants and alleviate their condition. At my inter-cession their chains were removed; and I directed the storekeepers of the prisons, after getting permission for that purpose, to furnish them with everything they stood in need of, in the way of food and clothing, and to charge the same to my personal account. These bills were paid out of my own private purse. Other American citizens also generously contributed in the same way. And when the Captain-General informed me that although he could not pardon all the prisoners, as I had urgently requested him, yet he would pardon a few of them, I interceded specially in behalf of Capt. Kelly, and made his case prominent, because he made such a strong appeal on account of his wife and children, who, he said, would be left in great destitution if he should be sent away. He owes his deliverance to me. How far he has repaid my attentions and kindness,

others may judge. I knew nothing of Capt. Kelly until I saw him in prison; and I know nothing of him since, ex-cept that he owes that liberty which enables him to abuse me to my own generous nature, which prompted me to select him, out of a great many others, as one of a few for whom I specially in-

voked executive elemency. But, again:
2d. It has been said that I was negligent in the discharge of my duty to Mr. John S. Thrasher, who has lately been sent to Spain. On this point I may barely say that I did all in my power to have Mr. Thrasher's case presented in the way he desired it, as the several communications I addressed to the Captain-General in his behalf will abundantly show, and to which I need only

refer at this time. Whether he was right in his construction of our treaty with Spain or not, is not for me to say; nor whether he was rightfully or wrongfully condemned. But whether my conduct towards him as an unfortunate countryman, claiming the rights of an American citizen in a foreign land, was kind or unkind, can perhaps best be judged of by the estimation he placed on it in the

following letter:

MORO CASTLE, HAVANA

November 26, 1851. DEAR SIR: About to be embarked for Spain to fill a most iniquitous sentence, I have to thank you, which I do most sincerely, not only for your xertions in my behalf, which we can only regret have been unavailing, but also for many acts of kindness which you have extended to me.

You are well aware that I do not go sadly to my imprisonment, because not only that I am perfectly innocent of the charges against me, but lso because I do not believe my countrymen will suffer my unjust sentence to be carried out. Reiterating my thanks to you, I remain your

obliged servant, J. S. THRASHER. A. F. OWEN, csq., Consul of U. S. of America. Now, Messrs. Editors, I have done. I have only alluded to the more preminent charges that haye been made against me, as I have been ena-

I have neither time nor inclination to take up the thousands of other silly and unfounded slanders that have been industriously circulated

against me I have said that I did not intend at this time or in this way to call in question the motives or of jects of those who treated me so unfairly. rule I have endeavored to observe. My only obcct has been to speak in defence of myself and

of my official conduct.
It is proper that I should also state that I have not alluded to the charges above specifically set forth as in any way connected with the reasons of my recall. I do not know upon what grounds or for what cause I have been recalled; nor do I wish to be considered as complaining of that recall. I am not the man to appeal to the public on account of such a greivance, even if I felt it. But I can say with truth that I have very little feeling on that subject; indeed none at all, except in so far as the fact itself might corroborate the idea that I had rendered myself unfit for such a place, by proving that I was destitute of those kindlier feelings of our nature which prompt the nstant. generous heart "to feel another's wo," and "to The invasion being ended by the capture and hide the fault we see," which I value more than all